

Attorney Docket No. 250793US2S DIV
Inventor: Keiichi KUSHIDA
Preliminary Amendment filed: March 25, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

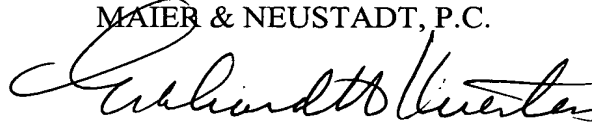
Favorable consideration of this divisional patent application in light of the foregoing Amendment and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 14-16 are presently active, Claim 14 having been amended and Claims 1-13 canceled by the present preliminary amendment.

Accordingly, examination on the merits is in order, and an early and favorable Office Action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/03)

I:\ATTY\EHK\AMEND-RESPONSES\0039\250793US-PREAMT.DOC